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S. Little
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#8/B

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Robert A. Sanderson, et al.
Serial No. : 09/696,139
Filed : October 25, 2000
Title : PISTON ENGINE ASSEMBLY

Art Unit : 3747
Examiner : Kamen

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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RESPONSE

In response to the action mailed March 29, 2001, please amend the application as follows.

In the claims:

Please amend claims 45, 59, 61, 69, 70 and 72.

Sub 1
45. (Amended) A piston assembly, comprising:
a double ended member having first and second elements configured for linear motion along a common axis, at least one of the first and second elements being a piston,
a transition arm coupled to a stationary support, the transition arm including a drive arm coupled to the double ended member by a joint positioned between the first and second elements, the joint including
an outer member configured for movement relative to the first and second elements, the outer member defining an opening for receiving the drive arm, and
an inner member mounted within the outer member for movement relative to the outer member, the inner member defining an opening for receiving the drive arm.

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59. (Amended) The piston assembly of claim 45 wherein the drive arm defines a longitudinal axis, the joint further comprising a mount for limiting movement of the drive arm along the longitudinal axis while permitting the drive arm to rotate about its longitudinal axis.

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61. (Amended) The piston assembly of claim 45 wherein the opening in the inner member comprises a channel.

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69. (Amended) A piston assembly, comprising:
a plurality of double ended members, each double ended member having first and second elements configured for linear motion along a common axis, at least one of the first and second elements being a piston,